National sample survey regarding rural families having less than one acre of land

†3188. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as National Sample Survey 72 per cent rural families are having less than one acre of land;

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the financial support to rural farmers owing meagre agricultural land and who have been rendered financially miserable due to flood, drought and other calamities;

(c) whether almost all developed countries provide financial support of around 350 billion dollars, the financial support provided to the farmer since the last three years in India; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to see that agricultural vocation become beneficial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) As per Report No. 472 of the National Sample Survey, 55th Round, about 71.72 percentage of persons possess less than one acre of land.

(b) to (d): The State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking necessary relief and rehabilitation measures in the areas affected by natural calamities out of the corpus of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is contributed by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1. In the event of calamity of a severe nature, in which the requirement of funds is beyond the funds available in the State CRF account, additional assistance is provided from national Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) after following the laid down procedure. Ministry of Home Affairs has laid down the norms and items to be covered for expenditure from CRF/NCCF. The assistance extended from the NCCF for droughts in the last three years is under: -

2002-03	-	Rs. 2201.73 crores
2003-04	-	Rs. 772.78 crores
2004-05	-	Rs. 934.94 crores

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.